

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-10 EUR-12 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 IO-13
L-03 NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6286

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 00259

DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS DOE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, MNUC, IR
SUBJ: NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

REF: TEHRAN 0109

1. DCM, ACCOMPANIED BY ACTING SCIENCE ATTACHE, CALLED ON AEOI MANZOUR MORNING JANUARY 9. WE REVIEWED WITH HIM OUR PERCEPTION OF THE STATE OF PLAY REGARDING A NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENT'S LAST CONVERSATION WITH THE SHAH (REFTEL). WE INDICATED OUR BELIEF THAT THE NEXT STEP WAS FOR THE AEOI TO PROVIDE US WITH WRITTEN COMMENTS AND/OR A REVISED TEXT OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AND ACCOMPANYING MEMORANDUM LEFT WITH AEOI DECEMBER 14.

2. MANZOUR CONCEDED THAT THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE HAD PUT A DIFFERENT COMPLEXION ON THE MATTER AND HE SAID THIS WAS REFLECTED IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE AEOI AS TO THE NATURE OF ITS RESPONSE TO OUR DRAFT PROPOSALS. HE THOUGHT THAT THERE WAS NOT MUCH THAT COULD BE DONE WITH THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AS IT NOW STANDS BUT THEY WOULD HAVE A REFORMULATION OF THE
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ACCOMPANYING NOTE TO PRESENT FOR OUR CONSIDERATION WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IN EFFECT THE BALL WAS NOT IN AEOI'S COURT NOTWITHSTANDING AN EARLIER PLEA THAT THERE WERE "IMPORTANT ISSUES STILL LEFT TO BE RESOLVED" AND THAT WE DO OUR BEST TO RESOLVE THEM. THIS OBSERVATION IS INCORPORATED IN A LETTER DATED DECEMBER 25 TO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY

NOSENZO WHICH WE HAD NOT HERETOFORE RECEIVED AND WHICH IS BEING TRANSMITTED BY SEPTTEL.

3. MUSING ALOUD ON WHAT CONCERNS THE AEOI STILL HAD IN MIND, MANZOUR SAID THAT HE FELT HE HAD TO HAVE A CLOSE READING OF THE FINAL TEXT OF LEGISLATION PENDING BEFORE THE CONGRESS. HE NOTED THAT SOME IMPORTANT CHANGES HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE WHICH INFLUENCED THE WORDING OF OUR PROPOSAL. HE WANTED TO BE SURE THAT ANY FURTHER CHANGES WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE FINAL TEXT OF OUR AGREEMENT, ALTHOUGH HE CONCEDED THAT IT WAS PROBABLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ANTICIPATE EVERY CONTINGENCY AND/OR FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION.

4. WE EXPRESSED OUR HOPE THAT WE COULD WRAP THIS MATTER UP AND SIGN AN AGREEMENT DURING THE US-IRAN JOINT COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 28. IN THIS CONNECTION WE SUGGESTED THE THOUGHT THAT IF NEEDED WE MIGHT PLAN FOR AN ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 23-24 AND THAT DR. ETEMAD MIGHT PENCIL THIS POSSIBILITY INTO HIS SCHEDULE. MANZOUR AGREED THAT WE WERE NOW WORKING TOWARD A FEBRUARY 28 DEADLINE AND SAID THAT DR. ETEMAD WOULD BE PREPARED TO GO TO WASHINGTON "AT ANY TIME" IF NEEDED. AFTER ALL, HE SAID, WE RECOGNIZE VERY CLEARLY THAT WE CONFIDENTIAL

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NEED AMERICAN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND THAT WE CAN GET THIS ONLY THROUGH A NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT. SULLIVAN

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